

# Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Southwest Seattle Bikeability Tour

*Sunday, January 11, 2004*

*Findings: See last page*



Kicking off the tour in Pioneer Sq, to begin the ride with a West Seattle commute



Board member and West Seattlite Harold Taw gives an overview of the SW Seattle bikeability tour



## **"Marginal's margin is marginal"**

Potholes, cracks, and rough edges abound in the bike lanes of East Marginal Way S



Picking up the SW Spokane St bike path to West Seattle



**SBAB thanks SDOT** for the SW Spokane St path, a critical if imperfect facility in a difficult industrial place.



User-friendly **wayfinding signage** would be very helpful through the complex SW Spokane St area.



Heading from under the West Seattle Bridge...



...onto the **soon-to-be-linked-up** Duwamish Trail





Duwamish Trail: Nature amidst industry



A Duwamish Trail pit stop to fix a flat tire



Near the Duwamish Trail's turn onto SW Michigan St, Harold points out the 1st Ave S Bridge of SR-99



Start of a block-long segment of trail at 8th Ave S and S Trenton St, fronting SR-99



Zigzagging on the surface route through modest, historic South Park, at S Cloverdale St and 14th Ave S



S Approach to the 1st Ave S Bridge



Making regional connections: start of the Green River Trail



Bikeway on 1st Ave S Bridge



N Approach to the 1st Ave S Bridge



At SW Michigan St, ready for a big Highland Park Way S climb





Climbing Highland Park Way S into West Seattle proper from the Duwamish flatlands



Lincoln Park: beloved, gentle seaside place



Alki multi-use trail created by **non-curb**side parking



Incomparably beautiful Lincoln Park



Back to the big-city downtown via E Marginal Way S which becomes Alaskan Way S here

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board  
**Southwest Seattle Bikeability Tour**  
Sunday, January 11, 2004

**Findings:**

**1. Working trails:** Through good design, bike trails in southwest Seattle successfully mingle with industrial areas, providing crucial connections in challenging urban locations.

**2. Links coming soon:** New trail links in progress, such as the Duwamish Trail completion to SW Spokane St, are eagerly anticipated.

**3. Wayfinding needed:** User-friendly wayfinding signage is much needed in the complex area of SW Spokane St through Harbor Island and along the length of the Duwamish corridor.

**4. Lack of bike lanes:** There are no striped on-street bicycle lanes in all of southwest Seattle. To complement the trails system and to facilitate everyday bicycling, an interconnected network of striped, signed bicycle lanes is needed.

For example, striping and signing 9th Ave SW, SW Henderson and Barton Sts, and Fauntleroy Way SW would complete a wonderful West Seattle Loop, with the Duwamish and Alki Trails.

**5. "Marginal's margins are marginal":** Potholes, cracks, and rough edges abound in the pavement on the important E Marginal Way S / Alaskan Way S bike lanes connecting to downtown. These badly need attention.

**6. Urgent: Hazardous grit:** SBAB observed a wide swath of sandy grit completely covering the bike travel areas of many arterial streets of southwest Seattle, a very hazardous situation following Jan 6th and 7th snowstorm-related sanding. Street sweeping is urgently needed.

**Next Bikeability Tour:**

Southeast Seattle, February 2004

**Seattle Bikeability Summary** to follow series of tours

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